



APPLICANT: Richard VICARI
U.S. Serial No. 10/618,248
FILING DATE: 07/11/2003
RE: PRODUCTION OF VINYL ALCOHOL
COPOLYMERS

: BEFORE THE PRIMARY
: EXAMINER: **Cheung, William K.**
: UNIT: 1713
:
:

Via fax to Group 1700 at 703-305-5885
Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Applicant's Docket No. **C-7218**

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This submission is responsive to the Office Action of March 1, 2003.
Reconsideration of this Application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 and 9-19 remain pending as previously examined.

Claim 8 is amended.

Claim 20 is canceled and rewritten as new claim 31.

New claims 21-39 are submitted for consideration.

8. [Amended] The process of Claim 1, wherein the average residence time in the first and second reaction zones of the components fed to the said reaction zones is about 30 to about 120 minutes[, for any twelve hour period].

20. [Canceled]

21. [New] A process for producing a vinyl alcohol/acrylamido copolymer comprising:

- (a) supplying a reaction mixture comprising vinyl acetate monomer and an acrylamido monomer to a first reaction zone wherein the vinyl acetate monomer and the acrylamido monomer are at least partially copolymerized to form a first reaction product comprising vinyl acetate/acrylamido copolymer;
- (b) transferring the first reaction product to a second reaction zone; and
- (c) supplying a stream comprising acrylamido monomer to the second reaction